Creation of Jobs in the Eighth Five Year Plan

1704. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Eighth Five Year Plan envisages the creation of new jobs; and

(b) if so, what is number of these that would be in the small sector and what is the number that would be in other sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The Eighth Plan envisages generating adequate employment to achieve near full employment level by the turn of the century on the basis of an employment oriented growth strategy. This has been sought to be achieved on the basis of encouragement to the growth of sectors, subsectors and areas with high employment potential and various special employment programmes.

(b) The exact number of new jobs likely to be created in each sector and sub-sector during the Eighth Plan period have not been worked out.

Pending projects of Tamil Nadu

1705. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the projects of Tamil Nadu pending at present with the Planning Commission for approval; and

(b) the time by which the said projects are likely to be accorded approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As per available information, only one project of Tamil Nadu, namely, Anaimadudu Reservoir Project, is pending with the Planning Commission for approval.

(b) The said project is pending for want of clarification regarding submergence of forest land from the Ministry of Enviroment & Forests. Even after receiving the requisite clarifications from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, decision for giving investment clearance to the project will depend on the overall resource availability of the State and sectoral priorities attached to various sectors by the State Government in the Eighth Five Year Plan, which is yet to be formulated and finalised.

Restructuring of 20-Point Programme

1706. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to restructure the 20 Point Programme and other rural development schemes;

(b) whether a new five point programme is being introduced during the Eighth Plan period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the total amount spent on various poverty alleviation programmes during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) During the Eighth Five Year Plan Period, one of the thrust areas would be poverty alleviation through overall economic growth and direct programmes of employment generation in rural and urban areas. Detailed features of the schemes are

now being worked out for inclusion in the Eighth Plan document.

(d) During the Seventh Plan period the total amount spent on major poverty alleviation programmes in rural areas viz self-employment programme of IRDP and wage employment programmes of NREP/RLEGP/JRY was Rs. 11126 crores. As for urban poverty alleviation programmes, the scheme Self-Employment Programme for the Urban Poor (SEPUP) launched in September, 1986 is implemented by public sector banks and the Central Government provides capital subsidy at the rate of 25 per cent of the total amount of loan and is routed through the public sector banks. The Central Government releases the subsidy to the Reserve Bank of India. During the Seventh Plan Period a sum of Rs. 120 crores was released to RBI.

The other urban poverty alleviation programme, namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana was launched in October, 1989 and the States/UTs were required to set up necessary administrative machinery for implementing the Yojana. A sum of Rs. 145.65 crores was disbursed to them. However, an amount of Rs. 317.816 lakhs was spent under the scheme of Urban Wage Employment of Nehru Rozgar Yojana during the last year of 7th Five Year Plan.

Finalisation of 8th Five Year Plan

1707. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) when the first and second approach papers to the Eighth Five Plan were approved by the Planning Commission;

(b) when these papers were considered by the National Development Council;

(c) by when the third approach paper to the Eighth Plan is likely to be finalised and placed before Parliament;

(d) by when the final document of the Eighth Plan is likely to be ready; and

(e) what is the manner in which these approach papers indicate improvement over the previous ones in the thrust areas of development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The first Draft Approach Paper to the Eighth Five Year Plan (1990—95) was approved by the Planning Commission in August, 1989. Subsequently, a fresh draft Approach Paper was prepared and was approved by the Planning Commission in February. 1990.

(b) The first Draft Paper was not considered by the National Development Council as there was a change of Government at the Centre in November, 1989. The Second Paper was approved by the NDC in June, 1990.

(c) A Directional Paper on "Objective Thrusts and Macro Dimensions of the Eighth Plan" was considered and approved by the National Development Council in its meeting held on 23rd and 24th December, 1991. The document has been laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 26th February, 1992 and Rajya Sabha on 27th February, 1992.

(d) Attempts are on to prepare the draft Eighth Plan as early as possible. It will become the final document after the NDC approves it.

(e) The first Approach Paper was prepared based on 6 per cent average rate of growth of GDP. The second Approach Paper envisaged the following objectives:—

(i) Strengthening federal structure,

(ii) Decentralisation of authority,

(iii) People's participation.